

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

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INTERNET-BASED
FONT SERVER

CLAIMS PENDING AFTER PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

1. An Internet-based font server for access by an Internet browser to provide a browser with representations of text elements in one language of a plurality of languages for browsing a web page in the one language over the Internet, the font server comprising:
 - a website for access by a browser,
 - a database of text element fonts of different sizes and styles,
 - first means for downloading the web page to the server,
 - a parser program for identifying text codes of the text elements in the web page and replacing the identified text codes with respective URL (Uniform Resource Locator) addresses, thereby converting the text of the web page into the URL addresses, and
 - second means for returning the converted web page to the browser.
2. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the parser program generates respective font files for the identified text codes and creates the URL addresses for the respective font files to replace the identified text codes with the URL addresses.
3. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 2, wherein said second means returns the converted web page to the browser by successively downloading the font files via the respective URL addresses.

4. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 2, wherein the server packs the font files into a single data packet for said second means to return the converted web page to the browser.

5. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the server matches the font characteristics specified in the web page to produce a closest match to an intended font appearance for said second means to return the converted web page to the browser.

6. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the text elements are ideographic characters.

7. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 6, wherein the server includes a database associated with a standard ideographic character input method and matches a received keystroke pattern of a character according to the input method with the corresponding pattern in the input method database to identify the character and then create a unique URL address for that character, through the parser program, for subsequent download to the browser.

8. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 1, wherein the URL addresses are determined according to an encoding scheme, in which each URL address comprises the address of the website, the text code for the respective text element, and a national code for the font.

9. An Internet-based font server for access by an Internet browser to provide the browser with representations of text elements in one language of a plurality of languages for browsing a web page in the one language over the Internet, the server comprising:
a website for access by the browser,
a database of text element fonts of different sizes and styles,
first means for downloading the web page to the server,

a parser program arranged to identify text codes of the text elements in the web page, generate respective font files for the identified text codes, and replace the identified text codes with URL (Uniform Resource Locator) addresses for the respective font files, thereby converting the text of the web page into the URL addresses,

second means returning the web page converted to the browser, and

third means arranged to download the font files via the respective URL addresses to the browser upon request by the browser.

10. An Internet-based font server for access by an Internet browser to provide the browser with representations of text elements in one language of a plurality of languages for browsing a web page in the one language over the Internet, the server comprising:

a website for access by the browser,

a database of text element fonts of different sizes and styles,

a parser program at the browser for identifying text codes of the text elements in the web page and replacing the identified text codes with representative URL (Uniform Resource Locator) addresses, thereby converting the text of the web page into the URL addresses,

first means for generating corresponding font files at the respective URL addresses for the identified text codes, and

second means for downloading the font files via the respective URL addresses to the browser upon request by the browser.

11. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 10, wherein the server packs the font files into a single data packet for downloading by the second means.

12. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 10, wherein the text elements are ideographic characters.

13. The Internet-based font server as claimed in claim 10, wherein the URL addresses are determined according to an encoding scheme, in which each URL address comprises the address of the website, the text code for the respective text element, and a national code for the font.